

30 years, about 3,000 shipments of high-level waste have traveled around the United States safely. Not without accidents—trucks and trains are always vulnerable to accidents—but without any radiation leaks.

The Nuclear Energy Institute says that the waste transport containers used thus far, with their multiple layers of lead and other shielding, are built to withstand severe accidents. They have been tested: hit by a locomotive traveling at 60 miles per hour, driven into a concrete wall at 80 miles an hour, burned, submerged. They have withstood the worst flung at them without failure, whether in testing or in actual transportation-accident situations.

The presence of so many above-ground storage facilities for nuclear waste, in so many locations, near so many people—160 million by one estimate—amounts to an open invitation to accidents or terrorism. The chilling security uncertainties alone should predispose Americans toward a central, safe waste site.

Getting the waste materials there is a technical problem, not a reason to kill the construction of Yucca Mountain. If current methods of transportation aren't adequate—and such assertions are still far from proved—then federal officials and nuclear plant operators should find other ways to protect the shipments.

A single national repository is the only reasonable way to go. If Yucca Mountain is as desirable a site as its supporters say, then questions about transportation of the waste should not hold it back.

#### RECOGNIZING NATHAN WEINBERG

#### HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 16, 2002*

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to recognize the accomplishments of Nathan Weinberg and thank him for his service to his country and his community as he retires as a trustee of the Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation and his appointment as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army.

In 1917, Nathan Weinberg was the first of his six siblings to be born in America, and in 1941, was inducted into the U.S. Army. On December 25, 1945, Mr. Weinberg was discharged as a 2nd Lieutenant after service in Texas, Australia, New Guinea and the Philippines.

After returning home to Baltimore, Mr. Weinberg worked in real estate and lived briefly in Texas and Pennsylvania working on business interests of his brother, Harry Weinberg. He remained a member of the standby reserve until October 1955 when he was honorably discharged.

In 1960, Mr. Weinberg became an active officer and trustee of the Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation. Since his brother Harry's death in 1990, Mr. Weinberg has remained one of five trustees to the Foundation, which is one of the largest private foundations in the United States. His leadership on the board has included projects supported by his brother, particularly housing and amenities for the elderly from Coney Island to Tel Aviv to Hawaii.

Mr. Weinberg was appointed Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army in 2000. His military experience and his dedication to the Maryland

Army National Guard has provided leadership, friendship and financial support for community outreach.

Mr. Weinberg has a strong sense of family and a firmly held belief in equality and equitable treatment for all people. At ground breakings and ribbon cuttings, he is not shy about expressing his concern for the welfare of the audience, unhappy that the dignitaries receive special treatment while the audience is left to stand, swelter in the heat or freeze in the cold. His sense of justice guides his dealings with others and he expects others to pass along that philosophy as well. He is a leader by example and deeds.

I would ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating Mr. Weinberg on a life well lived and in thanking him for his service to his country. Our appreciation extends to his family, his wife Lillian and his three sons, Donn, Glenn and Joseph, their wives and children.

#### PHILADELPHIA HOUSING AUTHORITY'S PRE-APPRENTICE- SHIP PROGRAM

#### HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 16, 2002*

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the upcoming graduation services of the latest class of the Philadelphia Housing Authority's Pre-Apprenticeship building, maintenance and construction trades program.

This will be the seventh graduating class of this model program that originated in 1999. Carl R. Greene, the Executive Director of the Philadelphia Housing Authority is proud of the program that will enable residents of public housing to improve their lives by providing them with skills to secure meaningful employment.

The program has won recognition from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Labor. It is also supported by the Philadelphia Building and Construction Trades Council, Metropolitan Regional Council of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Cement Masons Local Union 592, International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 21, International Brotherhood of Electrical workers, Local Union 98, Laborers' Local 332, and Plumbers Union Local 690.

The Pre-Apprenticeship program provides vocational and educational skills through a hands-on, 21-week training program designed to help participants pass the apprenticeship test for the construction unions. Upon completion of the program, graduates can work in the construction industry as qualified apprentices. The trainees will work with PHA and union contractors to rehabilitate, modernize and build at various Housing Authority properties.

PHA continues to be nationally recognized for its innovation in public housing. It has the distinction of being the first housing authority in America to be designed by the Institute of Real Estate Management (IREM) of the National Association of Realtors as an "Accredit Management Operation." This designation is awarded to firms engaged in property management, which have met IREM's high standards in the areas of education, experience, integrity, and financial stability.

#### AMERICAN LEGION AMENDMENT ACT, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS CHARTER AMENDMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 15, 2002*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of two bills, H.R. 3988, the American Legion Amendment Act, and H.R. 3838, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Charter Amendment Act. Both of these measures seek to broaden membership to their respective organizations. H.R. 3838, the American Legion Amendment Act, revises American Legion eligibility requirements by providing that individuals who are currently serving honorably in the armed forces are eligible for membership in the American Legion, H.R. 3838, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Charter Amendment Act, amends the charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) to allow members of the armed services who have received special pay for duty subject to hostile fire or imminent danger to be a member of the VFW. The bill also clarifies that the VFW would be considered "charitable" in order to qualify the organization's member activities for tax purposes.

Mr. Speaker, these measures send a strong message to our Nation's veterans. I am pleased that the House is taking action on these measures and will continue to strive to meet the needs of our veterans of today and tomorrow. As a father of a Gulf War veteran, I am proud that he will have the opportunity to join a major veterans organization, as well as the thousands of other deserving military service members who served in dangerous military campaigns such as Somalia, Kosovo and more recently, the war on terrorism in Afghanistan. I, along with my colleagues in Congress, are committed to serving America's veterans and their families with dignity and compassion. For these reasons, I strongly support these two measures.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE LAO- HMONG WIDOWS

#### HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 16, 2002*

Mr. UDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today both to honor and thank the widows of the brave men who fought alongside American soldiers during the Vietnam War. This week, members of the Lao-Hmong community will celebrate the first Lao-Hmong Recognition Day. This day will be a time to reflect on the important friendship between the Lao-Hmong and the American people, and to thank the Lao-Hmong for the sacrifices they have made.

The husbands of these brave women fought against communism in the name of freedom and democracy. Their dedication to this country and its ideals is admirable, and we owe it to them to honor their wives who risked their lives and the lives of their families to defend our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress has shown its appreciation for the Lao-Hmong veterans in

passing legislation establishing Lao-Hmong Recognition Day. I respectfully ask that we take time during this day to also honor these widows, and to thank them for their loyalty.

#### A TRIBUTE TO HUEY HAVARD

##### HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 16, 2002*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Huey Havard, the top law enforcement officer for nearly 10 years in Union County. Sheriff Havard died Sunday, June 23, 2002 after a long struggle with liver cancer. He was 63.

Sheriff Havard took office in 1993 but his career in law enforcement began three decades earlier as a 25-year-old patrolman for the El Dorado Police Department. It was then Havard found he had an unending passion to serve and protect the people he knew and loved in Union County. He had the distinction of being one of the first narcotics officers at the El Dorado Police Department and over the years he served as a motorcycle patrolman, commander of the patrol division, and in the detective division, climbing the ranks to sergeant, lieutenant, and finally captain.

Havard was named the city's officer of the year in 1973 and served as interim chief of police for a few months before taking a patrol deputy's assignment at the sheriff's office in 1983. During his tenure, Havard increased the number of patrol deputies and began 12-hour shifts for deputies to allow for better patrol coverage. He also assigned deputies to work full-time with the 13th Judicial District Drug Task Force.

Sheriff Havard was an honorable, driven, and passionate law officer. He was an amazing man, and an asset to Union County. I understand that this is a difficult time for his wife, Cathy, his mother, Eva, two daughters, Shondra and Laura, stepdaughter, Michele, and all of his many friends and relatives whom he loved dearly. They are in my heart and in my prayers.

Huey Havard will be missed greatly. His legacy of hard work, determination, and love of people will live on in the lives he touched and changed forever.

#### ON THE DEATH OF BENJAMIN O. DAVIS JR.

##### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 16, 2002*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mourn the passing of General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who was born on December 18, 1912, and died on July 4, 2002 at the age of 89. General Davis was buried at Arlington Cemetery with full military honors.

General Davis was an American hero, who through his leadership of the legendary Tuskegee Airmen, helped to dispel the myths about the ability of African-Americans to successfully engage in combat and specifically to master the complexities of flying and maintaining aircraft.

He was the first black graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point in the 20th Century. When Davis was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1936, the Army had had a total of two black officers, Benjamin O. Davis Senior and Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.

While at West Point, Davis applied for entry to the Army Air Corps, but was rejected. He later attended the Army's Infantry School at Fort Benning, and taught military tactics at Tuskegee Institute. Diverting Davis from the Air Corps was the Army's way of avoiding having a black officer command white soldiers, in a time when segregation prevailed and black troops had little hope for promotion.

In 1941, as wartime approached, an all-black flying unit was created, and Captain Davis was assigned to the first training class at Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama. In March of 1942, Benjamin O. Davis won his wings and became one of five black officers to complete the course. In July of the same year, Davis was promoted to lieutenant colonel and was named commander of the first all black air unit known as the 99th Pursuit Squadron.

In the spring of 1943, the 99th Pursuit Squadron went to North Africa, where they saw combat for the first time on June 2. By summer, the 99th were flying missions to support the invasion of Sicily. In the fall, Colonel Davis returned to the United States to command the 332nd Fighter Group, an even larger all black unit preparing to make the trip overseas. It was about this time when Top Brass recommended that the 99th be removed from tactical operations for poor performance. Colonel Davis held a news conference at the Pentagon to defend his men. Although they were permitted to continue fighting, a top-level inquiry ensued. Questions about the squadron were put to rest in January 1944, when its pilots downed 12 German fighter planes over the Anzio beach in Italy.

Colonel Davis and the 332nd arrived in Italy shortly after that. They were based at Ramitelli and came to be known as the Red Tails for the distinctive marking on their planes. The four-squadron unit accumulated a successful record of missions flown deep into German territory.

General Benjamin O. Davis was a highly decorated leader of dozens of missions in P-47 Thunderbolts and P-51 Mustangs. He received the Silver Star for a strafing run into Austria, and the Distinguished Flying Cross for a bomber escort mission into Munich. General Davis went on to lead the all black 477th Bombardment Group, which compiled an exemplary combat record.

When General Davis retired from the military in 1970, he became the Director of Public Safety in Cleveland. Later he joined the United States Department of Transportation, directing anti-hijacking efforts. In his five years with the department he supervised the sky marshal program, airport security and a program to stop cargo theft. In 1998 President Bill Clinton awarded General Benjamin O. Davis a fourth star, the military's highest peacetime rank.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO LEE REEVES

##### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 16, 2002*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lee Reeves of Howell, Michigan. Since 1987, Lee has served as President of the Howell Area Chamber of Commerce where she used her leadership skills and good nature to build up the city of Howell to its potential. Now she is leaving the chamber to pursue personal projects and family time.

Lee Reeves may be leaving the position this month, but the work she did while in office will continue to benefit the Howell community for years to come. While serving as President, Lee started countless community events, such as the Michigan Challenge Balloonfest, Sunday Farmer's Market, Taste of Livingston County, and the Fantasy of Lights Parade. She also saw Chamber membership grow from 200 to 925, and the budget increase from \$70,000 to \$850,000. In addition, Lee established a Downtown Development Authority and formed the Livingston County Visitors Bureau. She has received numerous awards, including Huron Valley Girl Scouts Woman of the Year, and Howell Citizen of the Year 2002. Lee has a husband, Louis, and a son, Skyler. She plans on writing a book about her daughter, Leta, who passed away five years ago from Leukemia.

Lee's efforts have contributed greatly to helping Howell grow into a remarkable city and a pleasant place to live. I am confident that her hard work and dedication to her community will continue well into the future. My Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Lee Reeves for all of her contributions to the community to Howell, and wish her success in her future endeavors.

#### TALKING TALONS YOUTH LEADERSHIP MAKES SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO NEW MEXICO

##### HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 16, 2002*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, during the Independence Day work period, I had the opportunity, like many of my colleagues, to visit constituents and groups in my home state. There was one visit that was especially gratifying that I would like to relate to my colleagues.

Talking Talons Youth Leadership, located in the mountains East of Albuquerque, is a non-profit youth development organization. This program works in several different ways to evaluate youth to be effective advocates and ethical stewards of themselves, wildlife, and the environment. I went into this program believing that it was a basic rehabilitation program for wild animals. I was pleasantly surprised to learn that Talking Talons is so much more.

I want to give a brief history of this program. In 1988, Wendy C. Aeschliman, a nurse at Roosevelt Middle School, in Tijeras, New Mexico, with a side practice as a licensed animal